



Special Edition

Shannon named 15th President of SJC

Banet to retire after 28 years

by Jacquelyn Leonard

For the first time in the 102-year history of Saint Joseph's College, a layman will hold the position of President of SJC.

The Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Mar. 5 and named Dr. Albert "Skip" Shannon as the 15th President of Saint Joseph's College. He will be the first non-clergy man to hold the position.

Dr. Shannon will succeed Fr. Charles Banet.

Fr. Banet will retire after serving 28 years as President of Saint Joseph's College.

Fr. Banet's 28-year term is the longest in school history, as well as the longest current tenure of any college or university president in the state of Indiana, and the second longest nationally by any college or university president of a public or private institution.

A native of Pittsburgh, Dr. Shannon

came to Saint Joseph's College in the fall to serve as vice president for academic affairs.

The Board of Trustees held a nation-wide search for a replacement for Fr. Banet. The Search Committee found Dr. Shannon here at the College.

Dr. Shannon will assume the role of President beginning July 1. Fr. Banet will remain in close contact with the College, as he has two years remaining as a Trustee of the College.

Election of a President

by Jacquelyn Leonard

In order to be elected President of Saint Joseph's College, several steps are followed.

The Search Committee, composed of a student, a faculty member and Board members, selects a candidate for the position from the applicants throughout the United States. That candidate is then presented to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Based upon his approval of the proposed candidate, a special meeting of the Board is called.

During this meeting, the

candidate for President must be elected a Trustee of the College through a vote of current members. All Presidents of the College must also be members of the Board of Trustees.

After the Presidential candidate is elected to the Board, the Board again votes. This time, the Board of Trustees elect the President from the membership of the Board.

The original candidate is then, hopefully, elected as President and his term begins whenever the current President resigns officially.

President-Elect discusses future plans

by Jacquelyn Leonard

"It's my turn to bat," said Dr. Albert Shannon, President-Elect of Saint Joseph's College.

Dr. Shannon will be the 15th president of Saint Joseph's College. "I'm really, really happy and excited at this opportunity. I feel I have the necessary skill to offer this position," Dr. Shannon stated.

He will also be the first lay person to hold the position of president in the school's 102 year history. However, he stresses that he will not lose sight of the Catholic tradition that SJC is built upon.

"I'm committed to maintain the Catholic, value-driven type of liberal arts and career oriented education that the Society of Precious Blood fathers have been doing here for more than 100 years," Dr. Shannon said.

The President-Elect also said, "Students are the only reason

that we are here. They have the right to expect quality service and excellence for the amount of money they pay."

Dr. Shannon sees Saint Joseph's College as a "client-centered service." He said, "Everything around Saint Joe's is built and geared around having students make it work and breathe."

He said that seeing the campus empty during the summer was the loneliest thing he had ever seen. "This campus needs its students," Dr. Shannon said.

Dr. Shannon also hopes to ensure every senior student beginning with the class of 1994 has the opportunity to eat dinner at his house before they graduate.

Another proposed plan of Dr. Shannon is the establishment of a President's Round Table. A group of students would meet "where ever the students felt comfortable" to discuss to good

and bad of the College, along with "their likes, the do this and the how come we don't do this."

"I want to ensure that the students feel they have a voice

"Everything around Saint Joe's is built and geared around having students make it work and breathe."

-President-Elect, Dr. Albert Shannon

with the president of the College," said Dr. Shannon.

Among some of Dr. Shannon's other priorities are the increasing of the enrollment. "I'm happy, but not quite satisfied with the current enrollment figures," he said. He says that enrollment of 1100-1200 stu-

dents would be the "ideal" for SJC. Currently, enrollment figures are around 1000 students.

Dr. Shannon also plans to increase the endowment fund of Saint Joseph's College. Increasing these funds could help the College hold costs at a lower level to students. Fundraising and "friend-raising" are the proposed methods for the endowment fund increase.

Dr. Shannon wants to increase the diversity on the campus. He wants to see more diversity among the students and faculty in terms of race and gender.

The President-Elect also seeks a strong athletic presence on the campus. "It's important to have a strong athletic program; however, the student comes first in student athletes," Dr. Shannon said.

Dr. Shannon said that the faculty, administration, clergy and students at Saint Joseph's

College have been extremely supportive.

One individual stands out among Dr. Shannon's supporters--his wife M.J. "No one could ask for anyone more supportive," the President-Elect said.

"She has always been my closest confidant and soulmate," Dr. Shannon said. He said that his wife looks forward to being SJC's "first First Lady."

"Saint Joseph's has never had a First Lady before. M.J. looks forward to defining that role," Dr. Shannon explained.

She has already volunteered in various administrative offices and occasionally joins Dr. Shannon for lunch at the College.

"Our roots are in each other," Dr. Shannon said of his wife.

The Shannons have two children--Sean and Erica. Erica is a sophomore at a university in the East. Sean is a senior at Rensselaer Community High School.



Dr. Shannon thanks faculty, students, president

President-elect makes official statement

The following is the official statement made by Dr. Albert "Skip" Shannon concerning his appointment to the presidency of Saint Joseph's College.

As I accept the formal election by the Board of Trustees to the position of the 15th President of Saint Joseph's College, I ask your prayers and the continued commitment of the Society of Precious Blood, the Board, the vice-presidents, the faculty, the staff, the students, alumni and friends of the College. The transition that we announce today is a reaffirmation of the pledge of the College to its mission of a Catholic, values-based, liberal arts education for young men and women in the mid-west, the country and the world.

I am simultaneously humbled and honored by the confidence expressed by the entire family of the College in their support for my candidacy. I turn first to my friend and newest mentor, Fr. Charles, and thank him for opening this door of opportunity. I

ask him and the spirits of the other 13 presidents who preceded him to maintain broad shoulders...that I might need to stand on them as I offer service and leader-

"I am simultaneously humbled and honored by the confidence expressed by the entire family of the College in their support for my candidacy."

ship to the College to assist it in reaching for new heights—only made possible by the reach and the vision of those who have preceded me.

I am also grateful for the open support of Msrs. Thatcher, Valentine and Maniscalco for the patient tutoring and advice they

have offered during my tenure as Academic Dean. I will also remain eternally grateful to the faculty for their openness, their challenges and support for my office. The welcoming arms of the staff, students, alumni, friends of the College and the Rensselaer community have easily made me feel like a native son and not a visitor from the east.

My predecessors have brought Saint Joseph's College to its deserved prominence in higher education—I simply plan to take it to its next logical level. With the support of the community:

I will expand the pockets of excellence replete in the academic divisions of the College;

I will lead the faculty in their ongoing stewardship of the Core program, their academic disciplines and pre-professional major programs;

I will assure our commitment to sound fiscal management and innovative projects in development, friend-raising and fundraising;

I will continue to hold

Banet to continue services at Saint Joe's

28-year presidency to come to an end

It's with sadness that I look toward to retirement from Saint Joseph's College. It's almost like experiencing the death of a friend or a loved one, since a vital part of my life, my entire life, actually, for the past 28 years, will be coming to an end. I'll miss it.

As I look back on my long association with the College, my mind is flooded with memories of associates, faculty and students alike, and fond memories far outweigh any negative moments I may have experienced.

It's been almost two years now since I first suggested to the Board of Trustees that I would consider retirement at age 70, and during that time, I believe the College has continued to

strengthen itself spiritually, academically and financially. I have no fear at all

"As I look toward my retirement, I have many attractive options to ponder, not the least which is rest, relaxation and fishing."

about the future of Saint Joseph's College.

As I look toward my retirement, I have many attractive options to ponder, not the least which is rest, relaxation and fishing. While

I intend to continue my close association with Saint Joseph's College here on-campus, I plan to keep all other options open at this time.

To pick out any single event or events, to list as my legacy, is not up to me. I'll leave that to you. I'm proud of the fact that I have always done what I believe is best for Saint Joseph's College, and done that with every ounce of energy I could put into the task at hand, whenever and whatever that job may have been.

Finally, I plan to continue to be an asset to the College that has meant so much to me for all my adult life...and I will continue to give to Saint Joseph's that which is asked of me.

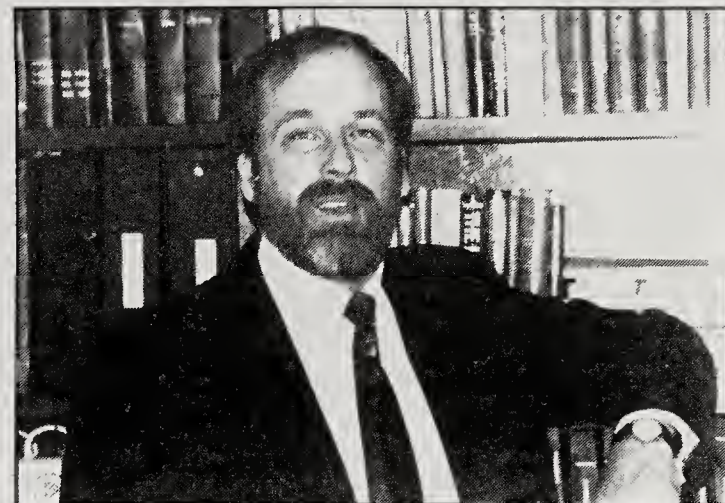


photo by Jonathan Michels

Dr. Albert "Skip" Shannon takes a break from his busy schedule. Dr. Shannon was named the 15th president of Saint Joseph's College by a special meeting of the Board of Trustees on Mar. 5. His term begins on July 1. Fr. Charles Banet will retire after 28 years as president of SJC.

the students as the top priority of the College—without these young men and women, none of us have any reason to be here;

I will work closely with all the members of the Society of Precious Blood in developing the religious, moral and knowledge bases of our students living in a community that Saint Gaspar will continue to bless;

Finally, I will look to the principal of reciprocal influence, as one of my basic guiding principles, as I stand on the bridge of the ship that we call Saint Joseph's College, on our voy-

age into the 21st century.

In conclusion, I promise energy and enthusiasm to the College. To those of you who know me, you know well that my source of this spirit lies in my best friend and wife of 22 years, M.J. As my confidant and life-long companion, you must realize that without her love and support, and the backing of my children Erica and Sean, I would have no energy, enthusiasm or expertise to share. I thank you in advance for the warmth and openness that you have shown this First Lady of Saint Joseph's College.

I look forward to all of the years ahead. Thank you.

STUFF

Saint Joseph's College
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Editor-in-Chief.....Jacquelyn Leonard
Managing Editor.....Jon P. Nowlin
Contributing editors:

.....Bob Ackerman
.....J. W. Sacco

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SA responds to gripe session complaints

Student concerns addressed

by Bob Ackerman

Below are samples of complaints brought out at the special meeting of the Student Senate held Feb. 15. The answers given to these complaints were compiled by Senate President Ken Benich from interviews with the appropriate administration officials. The full transcript of these questions and answers is available in the Mar. 1 Student Senate minutes. The Student Senate discussed these complaints and answers in detail at their Mar. 15 meeting.

WORK STUDY AND CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

Complaint — Why not keep facilities open later? This would

also create more jobs.

Answer — A facility's schedule is up to the department that runs that facility. If the department thinks that students will use them, the department will keep them open longer. Students should suggest specific schedule changes.

FINANCIAL AID

Complaint — Why is the estimate of personal spending at \$1000? A realistic amount is needed.

Answer — This amount is done based on a study and taking averages. Saint Joe is audited every summer. The amounts

that are allotted for personal spending and miscellaneous costs are: \$400 for books, \$320 for travel, and \$500 for laundry and other items (shampoo, soap, etc.). They cannot allow for entertainment. Even if this amount were raised, it would not make a difference in the total financial aid package.

CAMPUS FACILITIES

Complaint — The furniture in lounges needs replaced.

Answer — The problem the school faces is how to protect the furniture. The furniture gets burned, or taken to students' rooms, or punctured. A catalog sheet showing the new furniture

under consideration for the dorms is attached to the Mar. 1 Senate minutes.

SECURITY

Complaint — One student said she was told that Security is not there to break up fights. What is their purpose?

Answer — Head of Security Ernest Watson said that he has instructed his officers not to put themselves in any situation that might cause them bodily harm. When dealing with people fighting, sometimes it is best to wait until the individuals hit the ground in order to control them physically. Security tries to reason

with the individuals through words. They are not about to hurt the students and are not going to fight with them. The school is not about to arm Security with clubs.

MISCELLANEOUS

Complaint — Cafeteria food quality is declining.

Answer — This is the best team that has been at Saint Joe in a long time. They have had specials, they have tried to expand the menus, etc. There have been no budget cuts in the area of dining services, but rather an increase to raise the quality of the service. You are never going to get "home cooking" in a facility that caters to over 600 people.

Sacco for president

What a scary world it would be...

by J.W. Sacco

The selection committee made a great choice in choosing Skip Shannon for the next president of this fine learning institution.

But there were a few people that the selection committee forgot in their choosing of the president. The most prominent being....ME!!

I was contacted by the selection board and they asked me what I thought about being the first student/president of Saint Joseph's College.

I, of course, thought that it would be fantastic. Secondly they asked me what I would do, well I can see it now.....

"Hello students. I'm your college president James William Sacco and welcome to the Rensselaer branch of Martin Gore College (Depeche Mode founder)."

This comment to the selection committee is what started to hurt my chances; they had no intention of changing the name of the school. Especially not to a member of the greatest alter-

native band in the world.

I would change many of the rules that have hindered my progress in my favorite extra-curricular activities. Such as abolishing the set visiting hours; you can come and go as you please in the dorms. Or better yet...co-ed dorms! I can see it now, the Noll Stoned Ponies and Phillies.

I would get rid of the snack bar and have Core XI expand to the whole downstairs of Halleck. It would be called Sacco's Bar and Grill. All ages can enter (so come with a friend who's 21 so that you can...well...indulge in the forbidden pleasures).

And if the administration of the school does not like this they can kiss my butt...I'm president and there isn't a damned thing they can do about it.

I would let STUFF charge 25 cents an issue and if the students refuse to buy them, I'd make them buy it. STUFF would get to keep all of the money and it will be split as follows: The News editor would get 10%,

the Opinions editor would get 5%, the Sports editor 15%, the entertainment editor 10%, Features editor 70%, and Jackie Leonard will get nothing (nah-nah!).

I will designate one day out of the week as "Gothic Day." On this day, each and every student at MLGC will have to dress in an all black motif. While many students will not like this, Jason Hyde and I will have no problem with this day (Combat boots are optional).

Now I would move onto the Sports scene and would build the Bob Sheridan Memorial Coliseum it would seat 10,000 and not only would host male and female Puma games but will help bring Wrestlemania to Jasper County.

This was the last straw and the selection committee hung up on me.

I still thank the selection committee for calling me and giving me a chance.

I hope that Skip will take some of my ideas and put them into effect. Good luck, Skip.

Editorial

The recent approval of Dr. Albert "Skip" Shannon as president-elect of Saint Joseph's College marks an interesting and well-anticipated change for the school.

Dr. Shannon has only been with Saint Joseph's College since the beginning of the 1992-1993 academic year; however, during this brief time, he has allied himself with faculty and students alike.

Time and time again, Dr. Shannon has proved his concern for the students of SJC. Unlike other Saint Joe administrators, Dr. Shannon has made constant effort to acquaint himself with every aspect of campus and student life.

He has made appearances in the classrooms. Dr. Shannon sits in on classes in the Science buildings and occasionally even participates in the class discussions. Dr. Shannon has even been seen dining in the cafeteria with students.

His "campus tours," where he walks through the dorms talking to students without intent to "write" students up, show his determination to get to know the student population outside the classroom. Dr. Shannon knows that education continues outside the classroom.

Dr. Shannon has marked himself as a man concerned for the good of the student body. He is determined to make long awaited changes, such as the appointment of a student discipline committee which would hold trials and hand punishments to other students who have broken different SJC rules.

The appointment of Dr. Shannon as president-elect is exactly what the College needs to establish itself as a competitive, active and concerned campus. The STUFF staff salutes the appointment by the Board of Trustees and extends their hardest congratulations to president-elect Shannon.



Banet reflects on 28 years of service to Saint Joseph's College

SJC Release-

"Up! It's the only direction you can go. You can't go down. Forward and up." With those words Father Charles Banet outlined his plans for Saint Joseph's College in his first year as its president.

Nearly 28 years later, Saint Joseph's has indeed gone upward and forward under the unprecedented direction of Fr. Banet, whose retirement will go into effect upon the end of this semester.

When the Class of 1993 receives their diplomas on May 9, it will mark not only the end of an era of unprecedented change, growth and prosperity at Saint Joseph's under Father Banet's presidency, but also the end to the longest presidency in College history, as well as the longest current tenure of any Indiana college or university president.

On June 7, 1965, the Vietnam War was raging in southeast Asia, Lyndon Johnson was President of the United States, the Beatles were tops in the world of rock n' roll and Father Charles Banet assumed his duties as president of Saint Joseph's College.

More than 27 years have passed since that date and, like the world at-large, Saint Joseph's has undergone many changes.

"The expanded role of laymen in the governance and activities of the College has been the most exciting and significant development in my 27 years," says Fr. Banet.

Under his direction, the College added five lay members to its Board of Trustees in 1966 and by October, 1974, a complete lay board with six representatives from the Society of the Precious Blood was established.

Vatican II had encouraged maximized participation of laymen in the life of the Catholic Church and Fr. Banet saw the immediate applicability of this message to Saint Joseph's: with the decline in religious vocations, the service and financial support of laymen became urgently essential to the continued strength of the College.

Looking back on the early days of his presidency, and the need for an expanded lay role, Fr. Banet says, "I found the first years very hard and I learned quickly that you just can't work 12 to 16 hours daily, seven days a week, 365 days a year without harming yourself."

That type of work sched-

ule eventually prompted doctor's orders to slow the demands of his time and energy.

Those orders didn't keep Fr. Banet from overseeing two other major developments in the school's history during the first few years of his tenure.

Out of necessity, and with an eye on the future, Fr. Banet directed the transition of the school from 78 years of all-male enrollment to a co-educational institution.

Today, 24 years after that farsighted act, more than half the entire student body is female.

Just one year later, acting upon a goal outlined by Fr. Banet in his first speech to the College faculty and staff in 1966, the College introduced what has become one of the most highly acclaimed academic programs at any institution in the United States.

The Core Curriculum, an inter-disciplinary approach to education that effectively integrated with the overall curriculum, eventually led Money Magazine to name Saint Joseph's College as one of America's top ten educational bargains.

Perhaps the darkest day of Fr. Banet's tenure took place on Feb. 4, 1973, when an early morning fire completely destroyed the College's administration building.

Despite losing many personal articles in the blaze, and the shock of what the loss of the building meant to the College, Fr. Banet sprang to work with various fund-raising campaigns that over the years have kept Saint Joseph's a viable and growing institution.

Looking back on the joys and sorrows of his presidency Fr. Banet says, "There are times when I could not imagine anything that I would rather be than president of this college. Those are the days when I know how much a president is needed, how important decisions are, how important that the College be represented to so many different groups."

Over the years Fr. Banet developed two hobbies to relieve the stress and tensions that go with the job of college president: fishing and genealogy.

His fishing skills are well known among his close associates and family.

"Fishing is very relaxing, and even though you use

your mind to think about fishing your nervous system can thoroughly relax," says Fr. Banet.

Fr. Banet says he never expected to be president very long, but rather an interim leader. However, 27 years later, with a stable enrollment and certainty about the College's future existence, he will leave a legacy of leadership unmatched in Saint Joseph's College history.

"We haven't had the funds to do everything I would have liked to have done, but we are a valid, viable college which has made great strides in providing a first class higher education. We have every reason to be proud of our past, and with the continued support of our friends we shall be equally, if not more, proud of a future where we intend to serve a society that needs excellent small colleges like Saint Joseph's."

Fr. Banet, a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was ordained March 25, 1949, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Saint Joseph's in 1950 and a Masters degree in library science from the University of Michigan in 1951.

He was appointed executive assistant to the president of Saint Joseph's in Sep., 1964, and was elected president June 7, 1965. He is a member of Saint Joseph's Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors of Independent Colleges of Indiana Foundation and the Board of Directors of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Indiana.

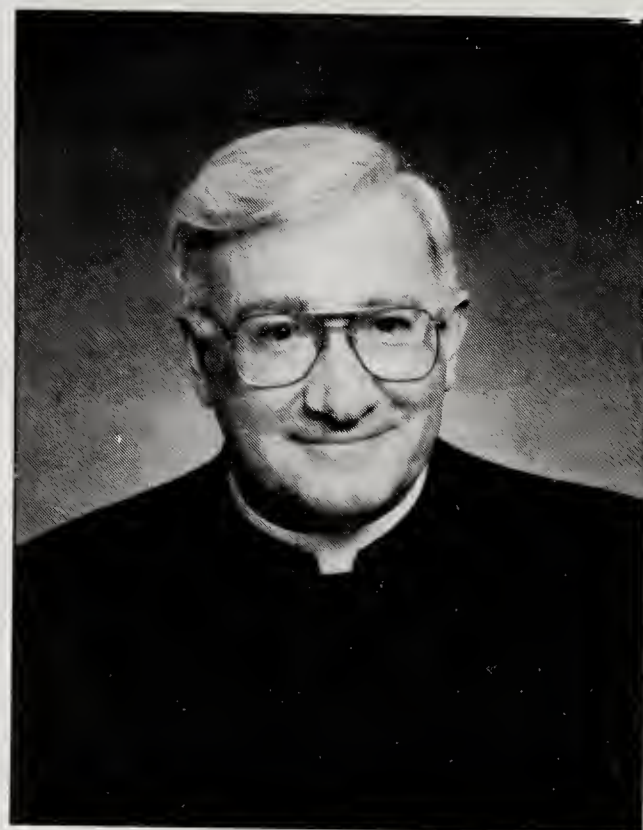
Fr. Banet has held many offices in state and national library and educational associations. He was Associate Editor of Philosophy Today from 1957-88.

He served as District Chairman of the Sagamore Council, Boy Scouts of America in 1981 and was Indiana Bicentennial Commissioner for Jasper and Newton Counties from 1973-79.

His awards include Sagamore of the Wabash (1979, 1985), Kentucky Colonel (1985) and the Sparks-Jones Award of Associated Colleges of Indiana (1977).

Fr. Banet received an honorary degree from Calumet College of Saint Joseph (Whiting, IN) in 1970 and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Saint Joseph's College in 1991.

Special Edition



Father Charles Banet will retire this year. Dr. Albert "Skip" Shannon will assume the presidency of Saint Joseph's College on July 1. Fr. Banet was the president of Saint Joe's for 28 years. He has served the longest presidential term in school history.

Trustee chair announces new SJC president

The following is the official statement made by Phil Wilhelm, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Saint Joseph's College.

There is an old saying that goes something like this: "When one door closes, another one opens."

So it is today for Saint Joseph's College, as we begin to close the door on the presidency of Father Charles Banet, and open the door on the presidency of Dr. Albert Shannon.

The selection of Dr. Shannon as President of Saint Joseph's College culminates four months of work by the national search committee

under the direction of Jim Madden, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

We at Saint Joseph's are proud of the number and quality of candidates that sought to become our 15th president.

Furthermore, we feel that a better selection could not have been made and have the utmost confidence in the abilities of Dr. Shannon to lead Saint Joseph's College into the 21st century.

With the appointment of a lay president to guide Saint Joseph's, the College enters a new era. However, we harbor no reservations about Dr. Shannon's commitment to maintain the Catholic-based, liberal arts education that Saint Joseph's College is known for.

Volunteers are still needed for the annual Saint Joseph's College Phonathon. The Phonathon will take place in the Halleck Ballroom Mar. 21-25. Prizes of \$20, \$40 and \$60 will be awarded nightly. For more information or to volunteer, contact Inge Erickson at ext. 6173